

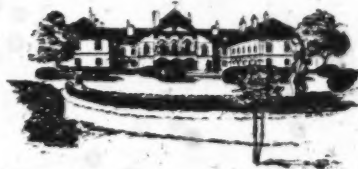
776 there in the days of Charlemagne. In 1926 St. Martin was made the patron saint of the Burgenland. But the fact that every self-respecting Burgenländer insists on eating roast goose on St. Martin's day is not necessarily due to his piety. Since the days of the Carolingians, a number of places in the Burgenland have been connected with St. Martin either by their names or by the dedication of a church. The most southerly is St.-Martin-on-the-Raab.



Schlaining.

792 From St. Martin it is not far to St. Gotthard. This monastery, just across the frontier, was founded by French Cistercians in 1184. It is a curious coincidence that in the Battle of St. Gotthard in 1664, where the Turks were defeated in open conflict for the first time, French troops played a

decisive part. The battlefield lies within the Burgenland parish of Mogensdorf. The name of the neighbouring village, Maria-Bild-bei-Weichselbaum, recalls the legend that a wonder-working picture of the Virgin was brought from a forest shrine to the village church, but transferred itself back to its



Kittsee.

original site, where a church was then built.

133 Even in the days of the Carolingians the rivers of Lafnitz and Pinka contributed to the establishment of settlers in the Burgenland. The Lafnitz today forms a natural boundary with Styria. If you follow the line of the Pinka northwards you will find that it crosses the frontier of Austria seven times.

[361] The same typically Burgenland villages are to be found on either side, inhabited by a mixed Croat and German population. The river fortress of Ebersau in this district is perhaps the least known castle in Austria.

In its upper reaches the Pinka like the other Burgenland rivers—the Raab, Lafnitz, Guns, Rabnitz, Eicha and Leitha—unites the Burgenland with the Stryian-Lower-



Landsau.